Listing of Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) A method for training at least one learning-capable system comprising the steps of:

   providing a predetermined training data set corresponding to input data for each of a respective predetermined number of subjects comprising a predetermined input data set and a predetermined outcome data set,

   augmenting the input data set and/or the outcome data set according to predetermined criteria, and

   training each learning-capable system using the augmented input data set and/or the augmented outcome data set, through the use of a computing device,

   ~~Method according to claim 1,~~ wherein the augmenting step comprises the steps:

   estimating propensity score data for each said subject depending on ~~it's the~~ corresponding input data,

   dividing the propensity score data into at least two strata,

   assigning each subject to a stratum according to predetermined criteria, and

   augmenting the input data of each subject by its propensity score data and/or its stratum ~~data~~ assignment.

3. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 2, wherein the training
    step comprises the step of optimizing ~~the~~ operating point parameters ~~for~~ within each
    stratum.

4. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 3, wherein the operating
    point parameters are optimized such that the median of all output data of users
    assigned to ~~vanishes for~~ each stratum vanishes.

5. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein the
    augmenting step comprises the step of:

    generating a plurality of augmented training data sets by augmenting the input data
    set using a predetermined statistical model.

6. (currently amended) A method of ~~Method according to claim 5 for~~ training at least
    two learning-capable systems according to the method of claim 5, wherein the
    training step comprises the steps of:

    training each learning-capable system using a subset of the plurality of augmented
    training data sets,

    constructing scores for each outcome for each trained learning-capable system, and

    determining characteristics of ~~the~~ distributions of the scores for each subject.

7. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 6, wherein the input
    data set is augmented using a generalized Markov chain Monte-Carlo method.

8. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] 2, wherein the
    augmenting step comprises the steps of:

providing a further learning capable-system and a further predetermined training data set comprising a further predetermined input data set and a further predetermined outcome data set <u>for each of a respective further predetermined number of subjects</u>,

training the further learning-capable system using the further predetermined training data set, and

augmenting the input data set by at least one additional input variable taken from the further <u>predetermined</u> input data <u>set</u>, further <u>predetermined</u> outcome data <u>set</u> and/or internal output data obtained from the trained further learning-capable system.

9. (currently amended) <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ according to claim 8, wherein the additional input variables comprise all further input data and all further outcome data of a subset of subjects of the further training data set.

10. (currently amended) <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] <u>2</u>, wherein the outcome data of the training data set is time-dependent and the augmenting step comprises pre-transforming ~~the~~ <u>a</u> time variable of the training data set in such a way that ~~the~~ <u>an associated</u> hazard rate with respect to a predetermined outcome is a predetermined function of the time variable.

11. (currently amended) <u>A method</u> ~~Method~~ for using a learning-capable system trained according to the method of claim [[1]] <u>2</u> ~~using the~~ <u>by applying</u> input data of a subject <u>to generate an outcome of the learning-capable system</u>, ~~characterized in that~~ <u>further comprising correcting</u> the outcome ~~is corrected~~ with respect to a predetermined reference subject.

12. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ for using at least two learning-capable
systems trained according to the method of claim 7 ~~using the~~ by applying input data
of a subject to generate output data of the learning-capable systems, comprising the
steps of:

presenting the input data of the subject to each of the learning-capable systems and

constructing a score for the output data obtained from the learning-capable systems.

13. (currently amended) A method ~~Method to create~~ of creating a composite training
data set, in particular for use in training a learning-capable system according to the
method of claim [[1]] 2, comprising the steps of:

providing an aggregated evidence data set,

disaggregating the aggregated evidence data set to obtain a disaggregated training
data set ~~with~~ based on virtual subjects, and

merging the disaggregated training data set with a further training data set to
produce the predetermined training data set.

14. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 13, wherein the merging
step comprises the step of choosing a real training data set based on real subjects
as the further training data set.

15. (currently amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 13, wherein the
disaggregation step comprises the step of assigning at least a value of one auxiliary

variable to each virtual subject of the disaggregated training data set <u>according to predetermined criteria</u>.

16. (currently amended) <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ according to claim [[1]] <u>2</u>, wherein the predetermined training data set is provided by:

providing an aggregated evidence data set,

disaggregating the aggregated evidence data set to obtain a disaggregated training data set ~~with~~ <u>based on</u> virtual subjects, and

merging the disaggregated training data set with a further training data set <u>to produce the predetermined training data set</u>.

17. (currently amended) A computer program product directly loadable into the internal memory of a digital computer, comprising software code portions for performing the steps of the method of claim [[1]] <u>2</u>, when said product is run on a computer.

18. (currently amended) A computer program product stored on a medium readable by a computer, comprising computer readable program means for causing a computer to perform the steps of the method of claim [[1]] <u>2</u>, when said product is run on a computer.

19. (currently amended) <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ according to claim 5, wherein the input data set is augmented using a generalized Markov chain Monte-Carlo method.

20. (currently amended) <u>The method</u> ~~Method~~ according to claim 14, wherein the
disaggregation step comprises the step of assigning at least a value of one auxiliary
variable to each virtual subject of the disaggregated training data set.